

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The apparatus and method as claimed wherein a reformed product stream enters a water gas shift reactor, when combined with providing a water gas shift catalyst therein comprising a mixed metal oxide support consisting essentially of cerium oxide at about 58% to 80% and zirconium oxide at about 42% to 20%, this combination is missing from the prior art of record including that of Dardas et al. (US 6,932,848). Dardas teaches that the mixed metal oxide comprises ceria and a second and a third metal (see claim 17). Dardas however is not available as prior art since applicant declared that the instant invention was reduced to practice prior to May 9th, 2001 - see Declaration submitted 3/17/2008.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KAITY V. HANDAL whose telephone number is (571)272-8520. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Neckel Alexa can be reached on (571) 272-1446. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1795

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/K. V. H./
Examiner, Art Unit 1795

8/30/2010

/Alexa D. Neckel/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1795